



## Gov. Ritter in town to support funding for Mesa State

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GRAND JUNCTION (KJCT)- Governor Ritter will be in town as part of a two-day tour to meet mountain mayors through out the Western Slope.

Today, Governor Ritter along with the Mesa State College Community will be at Mesa State's Saunders Field House to celebrate Ritter's support of \$18-million in state funding...for the college.

If the college is granted the money...they'll use it for the renovation and expansion of Saunders Fieldhouse.

200,000 square feet will be added to the building ... In the \$40-million project. 125,000 square feet will be renovated.

There will be 16 new classrooms....and the building will house the Health Sciences Department....which includes nursing, radiologic sciences, and emergency medical technician programs.

The project also includes construction of a human performance lab....and the construction of western Colorado's only fifty-meter indoor swimming pool.

The first phase of the project included construction of a multipurpose competition soccer stadium.

The renovation will provide practice and competition venues for mesa state's 14 intercollegiate sports teams.

Next week, remodeling will begin on innersole classrooms and locker rooms in the basement of Saunders.

At 3:00 today...Ritter met with mountain-area mayors at the Rifle City Hall.... To discuss local issues he will also stop in at the Grand Junction High School boys varsity basketball game tonight.

And he has a full day planned for tomorrow.